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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/382,425	08/24/1999	JEFFRY JOVAN PHILYAW	PHLY-24.734	5219

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EXAMINER
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SHERR, CRISTINA O

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3621

DATE MAILED: 06/03/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/382,425

Applicant(s)

MATHEWS ET AL.

Examiner

Cristina O Sherr

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_ 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on March 21, 2003 has been entered.
2. Claims 1 and 11 in this application have been newly amended. Claims 21 and 22 have been newly added. Claims 1 – 22 are pending in this application.

### ***Response to Arguments***

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 - 20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-10 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Knowles et al (US 5,869,819A).

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## 6. Regarding claim 1 –

Knowles discloses a method for interfacing a user location on a network to a destination location on the network, comprising the steps of scanning a bar code having product information contained therein relating to an associated product, which bar code has no network routing information contained therein; extracting product information from the bar code; defining routing information over the network from the user location to the destination location in direct response to the steps of scanning and extracting, which routing information defines the location of the destination location on the network, the step of defining including the steps of accessing a relational database at a location on the network containing a relationship between product information and predefined destination locations on the network, which relational database is operable to determine the one of the predefined destination locations associated with the extracted product information; transmitting to the relational database the extracted product information; instructional code generated at the database location on the network defining an instruction to cause the user location to be connected to at least one predefined destination defined by the relationship stored in the relational database in association with the transmitted extracted product information; receiving from the relational database the generated instructional code containing routing information associated with the extracted product information; and interconnecting the user location to the destination location in accordance with instructional code containing the defined routing information, which step of interconnecting occurs in direct response to the steps of scanning, extracting and defining after the step of scanning (Col. 2 ln 34 – col. 5 ln 55).

7. Regarding claim 2 –

Knowles discloses the method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of receiving information from the destination location in response to interconnecting thereto and displaying the received information (Col. 2 ln 34 – col. 5 ln 55).

8. Regarding claim 3 –

Knowles discloses the method of Claim 1, wherein the bar code is disposed on or in close association with the associated product (Col. 2 ln 34 – col. 5 ln 55).

9. Regarding claim 4 –

Knowles discloses the method of Claim 3, wherein the bar code comprises an ISBN bar code (Col. 2 ln 34 – col. 5 ln 55).

10. Regarding claim 5 –

Knowles discloses the method of Claim 3, wherein the bar code comprises an EAN bar code (Col. 2 ln 34 – col. 5 ln 55).

11. Regarding claim 6 –

Knowles discloses the method of Claim 3, wherein the bar code comprises a UPN bar code (Col. 2 ln 34 – col. 5 ln 55).

12. Regarding claim 7 –

Knowles discloses the method of Claim 1, wherein the step of defining [the] routing information comprises defining a universal resource locator (URL) of the destination location over the network in direct response to the step of scanning and extracting (Col. 2 ln 34 – col. 5 ln 55).

13. Regarding claim 8 –

Knowles discloses the method of Claim 1, wherein the step of defining routing information comprises the step of determining the existence of predetermined association between the scanned bar code and routing information for the destination location on the network (Col. 2 ln 34 – col. 5 ln 55).

14. Regarding claim 9 –

Knowles discloses the method of Claim 8, wherein the step of determining the existence of predetermined association comprises the step of accessing a database of a plurality of predetermined associations between a plurality of bar codes and associated routing information and determining if there is a corresponding bar code in the database (Col. 2 ln 34 – col. 5 ln 55).

15. Regarding claim 10 –

Knowles discloses the method of Claim 9, wherein the step of accessing comprises the steps of transmitting information extracted from the bar code to an intermediate location on the network; providing an associative database at the intermediate location, which associative database has stored therein the plurality of bar codes and associated routing information; comparing the information extracted from the bar code received at the intermediate location with the database; and if there is a corresponding bar code in the database to the extracted information in the bar code, returning the routing information to the user's location (Col. 2 ln 34 – col. 5 ln 55).

16. Regarding claim 21 –

Knowles discloses the method of Claim 1, wherein the relational database is disposed on an intermediate node on the network (Col. 2 ln 34 – col. 5 ln 55).

17. Claims 11-20 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Knowles et al (US 5,869,819A).

18. Regarding claim 11 –

Knowles discloses a method for interfacing a user location on a network to a destination location on the network, comprising the steps of scanning a bar code having product information contained therein relating to an associated product with a scanner, which bar code has no network routing information contained therein; in direct response to the step of scanning, extracting product information contained within the bar code for conversion in an interface device to keyboard data input to a PC at the user location in combination with a scanner ID; in direct response to the step of extracting, defining routing information over the network from the user location to the destination location in response to the steps of scanning and extracting, which routing information defines the location of the destination location on the network, the step of defining including the steps of accessing a relational database at a database location on the network containing a relationship between product information and predefined destination locations on the network; which relational database is operable to determine the one of the predefined destination locations associated with the extracted product information; transmitting to the relational database the extracted product information; instructional code generated at the database location on the network defining an instruction to cause the user location to be connected to at least one predefined destination defined by the relationship stored in the relational database in association with the transmitted extracted product information; receiving from the relational database the generated

instructional code containing routing information associated with the extracted product information; and in direct response to the step of defining, interconnecting the user location to the destination location in accordance with instructional code containing the defined routing information (Col. 2 In 34 – col. 5 In 55).

19. Regarding claim 12 –

Knowles discloses the method of Claim 11, further comprising the steps of receiving information from the destination location in response to interconnecting thereto and displaying the received information (Col. 2 In 34 – col. 5 In 55).

20. Regarding claim 13 –

Knowles discloses the method of Claim 11, wherein the bar code is disposed on or in close association with the associated product (Col. 2 In 34 – col. 5 In 55).

21. Regarding claim 14 –

Knowles discloses the method of Claim 13, wherein the bar code comprises an ISBN bar code (Col. 2 In 34 – col. 5 In 55).

22. Regarding claim 15 –

Knowles discloses the method of Claim 13, wherein the bar code comprises an EAN bar code (Col. 2 In 34 – col. 5 In 55).

23. Regarding claim 16 –

Knowles discloses the method of Claim 13, wherein the bar code comprises a UPN bar code (Col. 2 In 34 – col. 5 In 55).

24. Regarding claim 17 –



Knowles discloses the method of Claim 11, wherein the step of defining routing information comprises defining a universal resource locator (URL) of the destination location over the network in direct response to the step of scanning and extracting (Col. 2 ln 34 – col. 5 ln 55).

25. Regarding claim 18 –

Knowles discloses the method of Claim 11, wherein the step of defining routing information comprises the step of determining the existence of predetermined association between the scanned bar code and routing information for the destination location on the network (Col. 2 ln 34 – col. 5 ln 55).

26. Regarding claim 19 -

Knowles discloses the method of Claim 18, wherein the step of determining the existence of predetermined association comprises the step of accessing a database of a plurality of predetermined associations between a plurality of bar codes and associated routing information and determining if there is a corresponding bar code in the database (Col. 2 ln 34 – col. 5 ln 55).

27. Regarding claim 20 –

Knowles discloses the method of Claim 19, wherein the step of accessing comprises the steps of transmitting information extracted from the bar code to an intermediate location on the network; providing an associative database at the intermediate location, which associative database has stored therein the plurality of bar codes and associated routing information; comparing the information extracted from the bar code received at the intermediate location with the database; and if there is a corresponding bar code in

the database to the extracted information in the bar code, returning the routing information to the user's location (Col. 2 ln 34 – col. 5 ln 55).

28. Regarding claim 22 –

Knowles discloses the method of Claim 11, wherein the relational database is disposed on an intermediate node on the network (Col. 2 ln 34 – col. 5 ln 55).

29. Examiner's note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant.

Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may be applied as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant, in preparing the responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the examiner.

### ***Conclusion***

30. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

31. Wilz, Sr. et al (US 6,510,997B1) discloses a hand-supportable bar code symbol-reading device having an integrated world wide web (www) browser command generator for automatically generating www browser program commands to initiate the execution of hypertext transmission protocol (HTTP) requests.

32. Wilz, Sr. et al (US 5,992,752A) disclose an internet-based system for enabling information-related transactions over the internet using java-enables internet terminals

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provided with bar-code symbol readers for reading java-applet encoded bar code symbols.

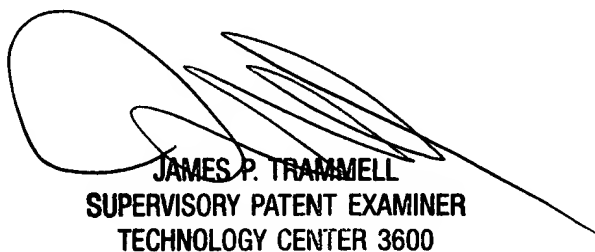
33. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cristina O Sherr whose telephone number is 703-305-0625. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:30 to 5:00.

34. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell can be reached on 703-305-9768. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-7687 for regular communications and 703-305-7687 for After Final communications.

35. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

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May 29, 2003



JAMES P. TRAMMELL  
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